

State of Wyoming Military Department Office of the Adjutant General

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For immediate release

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Wyoming Air National Guard begins AEF mission

CHEYENNE – The Wyoming Air National Guard has begun a 120 day mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The mission calls for Wyoming Air National Guard personnel and equipment to rotate in and out of the Afghanistan over the next 120 days to provide airlift support for U.S. forces.

"The Wyoming Air National Guard is the best unit in the country and we are prepared to successfully complete this mission," said Col. Harold Reed, 153rd Airlift Wing commander. "Although many details remain classified for the safety of our personnel, we know Wyoming's residents will continue to show support for our personnel and their families and for that we thank them. Their support is an important piece for our mission's success."

The first group of people left Cheyenne over the weekend via Wyoming Air National Guard C-130. Additional personnel will deploy throughout the 4-month commitment..

The Wyoming Air National Guard has more than 1,000 men and women assigned.

The 153rd Airlift Wing, located in Cheyenne, is the host unit for the organization.

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Note: Enter the Name a C-130 contest. Details at www.wy.ngb.army.mil/PAO/release/2007/07.47.pdf